GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:256
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2008
ADULT LITERACY
Ramadass Prof. M;Sharma Shri Madan Lal

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the rank that India holds in the world in adult literacy;

(b) the present rate of adult literacy in the country, State-wise;

(c) the extent to which it is likely to increase by the end of 2009;

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase adult literacy;

(e) whether the funds allocated by the Government for the purpose are being misutilised/diverted in some States;

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(g) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 256 FOR 16.12.2008 ASKED BY PROF. M.RAMADASS AND SHRI MADAN LAL SHARMA REGARDING ADULT LITERACY

(a) The Education for All (EFA) Global Monitoring Report 2009 ranks the countries of the world on the basis of a composite Education Development Index(EDI) comprising primary Net Enrolment Rate (NER), adult literacy rate,gender-specific EFA index and survival rate upto grade 5(five).India is ranked at 102 position.

(b) According to 2001 Census,the literacy rate in the country is 64.84 percent.A statement indicating state-wise literacy rate is at annexure.

(c) Literacy data in the country is collected through the decennial census operation conducted by Registrar General of India.According to the last census held in 2001,the literacy rate was 64.84 percent and the updated literacy rate will be available only after the 2011 census

(d) Programmes under National Literacy Mission include provision for functional literacy, post literacy and continuing education.In addition,steps have been taken to universalize elementary education through enhancement of financial outlays for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, introduction of cooked Mid Day Meal (MDM) scheme for all children in classes I-VIII in Government/ Local Body and Government Aided schools etc.,and through this process to arrest the influx of persons into the pool of adult illiterates.

(e)to (g) No,sir.However,complaints regarding misutilisation of funds are referred to the concerned State Governments or separately enquired into by the Department based on the nature of the complaint.Action is taken commensurate with the gravity of irregularity and further release of grant for such projects is withheld pending outcome of the investigation.